



Centered In Christ: NOW

2/25/2024

Ephesians 1:10

Redeemed, how I love to proclaim it!
Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb
Redeemed thro' His infinite mercy
His child and forever, I am

Chorus:

Redeemed, and so happy in Jesus
No language my rapture can tell
I know that the light of His presence
With me shall continually dwell

Chorus:

I think of my blessed Redeemer
I think of Him all the day long
I sing, for I cannot be silent
His love is the theme of my song

Chorus:

I know I shall see in His beauty
The King in whose law I delight;
Who lovingly guards every footstep,
And gives me a song in the night.

Chorus:

The starting point for spiritual maturity is to appreciate that getting saved isn't our way to get God involved in our things and to do what we want ... Getting saved is God's way to get us involved in His things and to do what He wants, which is infinitely greater!

Then we better understand what God is REALLY doing today and appreciate our role in it, and that only comes through the preaching of Jesus Christ according to the **Revelation of the Mystery**.

- a. While through the non-Pauline Scriptures we can have only partial knowledge of God's Prophetic Program—only those directly going through it in the future will understand it fully ...
- b. Pauline Grace Mystery Truth, however, gives us—RIGHT NOW--the FULL-knowledge of what God is doing today so that we can operate in accord with Him in our daily walk.

That's why we put such an emphasis on understanding the Mystery. The revelation of the Mystery is what tells us what God is doing today—why God created us-in-Christ, how God is using us, what our purpose and program is, etc.

- --We can have the FULL-KNOWLEDGE of God's things: Of what God is doing today with US-IN-CHRIST, the Body of Christ, in His Mystery Program to re-establish His Glory in the Heavenlies.
- --When we don't know this, we don't know the things that God is doing today, and we will just fill that void up with whatever we want in accord with the flesh and its man-made religious systems and man-centered theological systems.

- 1. But the center of Creation is not us. It is Christ!:
 - a. The Scriptures center on Him—Lk. 24:27; Jn. 5:39.
 - b. The universe was created centered on Him (Is. 40:22; 45:18).
 - c. God's eternal plan centers on Him—Rom. 11:33-36—it originated from Him, was accomplished by Him and was designed for His good pleasure (Col. 1:16).
 - d. We operate according to our sonship position when we understand and appreciate, rejoice, praise and delight in Him, thereby fulfilling our created purpose, enjoying our IN CHRIST position with Him right now. That is what Ephesians is trying to create within us.
 - --Through the riches of His Grace, God gives us the wisdom and prudence we need to live lives already centered in/on Christ.

- 2. The key to the Christian life and walk then is to do right now what God is going to do in the future with all creation as ones who already belong to the new IN-CHRIST creation wherein Christ's Life is our life (Gal. 2:20):
 - a. God is going to center the whole universe in Christ in the future.
 - b. But we can participate in this right now through hearts and minds focused solely on Him as revealed in Pauline Grace Mystery Truth (PGMT).

- 3. Our Apostle Paul illustrates this in Phil. 3:1-14:
 - a. Everything Paul counted before, centering his life on—his ethnicity, ancestry, Law observance, education, position, religious zeal—became nothing and worse than nothing—dung!—compared to the exceeding greatness of knowing Christ THAT SURPASSES EVERYTHING ELSE, sharing in His death and resurrection that made him the righteousness of God in Christ.

- b. Paul now thinks and discerns based on that invaluable priceless central knowledge of true living centered in Christ (he counted or considered or reckoned--3:7, 8,13).
- c. Paul is in the process of being conformed to Christ, who likewise didn't consider His own things but became a human, taking the form of a servant, even unto the death of the Cross.
 - --Now, what is most important to Paul is what is most important to God.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

VERSE I:

To God be the glory, great things He hath done So loved He the world that He gave us His Son Who yielded His life an atonement for sin And opened the life-gate that all may go in

CHORUS:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear His voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son

And give Him the glory great things He hath done!

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

VERSE II:

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood To every believer the promise of God The vilest offender who truly believes That moment from Jesus a pardon receives!

CHORUS:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear His voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son

And give Him the glory great things He hath done!

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

VERSE III:

Great things He hath taught us,
great things He hath done
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport when Jesus we see!

CHORUS:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the earth hear His voice!

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!

Let the people rejoice!

O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son

And give Him the glory great things He hath done!